

Rights Must NEVER Be Taken for Granted!

On October 26, 2001, President Bush signed into law the **USA PATRIOT Act**, which forfeits many rights guaranteed to citizens and non-citizens by the Bill of Rights of our Constitution. The USA PATRIOT Act:

- Gives the FBI and the CIA greater rights to wiretap phones, monitor e-mail, seek records from libraries and bookstores, survey medical, financial and student records, and break into homes and offices without prior notification and without showing “probable cause” of a crime.
- Allows noncitizens to be deported or detained indefinitely without judicial appeal, and often without access to legal counsel.

Additionally:

- A Bureau of Prisons order allows federal agents to eavesdrop on conversations between lawyers and their clients held in federal custody.
- The Justice Department has dismantled regulations against FBI COINTELPRO-type operations (covert activities that in the past targeted domestic groups and individuals).
- The Administration has ordered secret military tribunals for suspected terrorists.

The **Homeland Security Act of 2002** includes provisions that further threaten rights by:

- Reducing privacy
- Increasing government secrecy and power

Information about introduced legislation that would further increase the government’s powers and decrease judicial oversight, and introduced legislation aimed at rolling back the powers provided by the Patriot Act and related laws is available at our website, www.bordc.org.

Cities and Towns Pass Resolutions

Over 400 cities, towns, counties, and states have either passed or are considering resolutions declaring their

communities “Civil Liberties Safe Zones” (*See sample resolution on other side.*)

How Your Community Can Help Change National Policy

Local Bill of Rights Defense Committees first work in their communities to (1) educate residents and local legislators about the threats to civil liberties and (2) pass resolutions.

Next, they move to the federal level. Communities that have passed resolutions form statewide coalitions composed of elected leaders and community members. These coalitions meet with their Congressional delegation to ask them to actively work for legislation to restore civil liberties. *The more communities and states that pass resolutions, the greater our voice will be at the national level.*

Defend Our Bill of Rights!

There may already be a Bill of Rights Defense Committee in your community. Visit our web site at www.bordc.org to find great links and information on the issues, the status of resolutions passed and in progress nationwide, tools to help organize in your town or state, and other ideas for taking back and preserving our Constitutional rights.

Support the Bill of Rights With a tax-deductible contribution

Your financial assistance enables BORDC to help communities across the country win back civil rights and liberties guaranteed by the Constitution and Bill of Rights

Please make a tax-deductible donation to the Bill of Rights Defense Committee and send it to the address below, or contribute online at www.bordc.org/donate.

Join the growing national movement of communities declaring themselves **CIVIL LIBERTIES SAFE ZONES**. Find more sample resolutions and other tools at www.bordc.org.

Resolution Defending the Bill of Rights and Civil Liberties (Passed unanimously by the Eugene City Council on November 25, 2002)

The City Council of the City of Eugene finds that:

- A. The City of Eugene has been, and remains committed to the protection of civil rights and liberties for all people as expressed in the United States and the Oregon Constitutions.
- B. The City of Eugene hereby reaffirms its support of the U.S. Constitution and the Oregon Constitution.
- C. The City of Eugene's Mission Statement promises to respect the perspectives and lifestyles of our active and diverse citizenry and commits the city to providing a safe community where people feel secure and respected, and a local government that works openly and respectfully with and for the community.

Now, therefore, **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EUGENE, a Municipal Corporation of the State of Oregon, as follows:**

Section 1. We ask that the U.S. Attorney's Office, the Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Oregon State Police, and any other Federal, State law enforcement officials and local law enforcement with any such information report to the Eugene City Council and Human Rights Commission monthly and publicly the extent and manner in which they have acted under the USA PATRIOT Act and new Executive Orders, including but not limited to disclosing:

- 1.1 The names of any detainees held in the area or any Eugene residents detained here or elsewhere, the circumstances that led to the detention;
- 1.2 The charges, if any, lodged against each detainee;
- 1.3 The name of Counsel, if any, representing each detainee;
- 1.4 The number of search warrants that have been executed in the City of Eugene without notice to the subject of the warrant pursuant to section 213 of the USA PATRIOT Act;
- 1.5 The extent of electronic surveillance carried out in the City of Eugene under powers granted in the USA PATRIOT Act;
- 1.6 The extent to which federal authorities are monitoring political meetings, religious gatherings or other such activities within the City of Eugene;
- 1.7 The number of times education records have been obtained from public schools and institutions of higher learning in the City of Eugene under section 507 of the USA PATRIOT Act;
- 1.8 The number of times library records have been obtained from libraries in the City of Eugene under section 215 of the USA PATRIOT Act;
- 1.9 The number of times that records of the books purchased by store patrons have been obtained from bookstores in the City of Eugene under section 215 of the USA PATRIOT Act; and
- 1.10 Subpoenas issued to Eugene citizens through the United States Attorney's Office without a court's approval or knowledge.

Section 2. We resolve that, to the greatest extent legally possible, no city resources, particularly administrative or law enforcement funds, will be used for unconstitutional activities conducted under the USA PATRIOT act or recent Executive Orders which permit activities listed above.

Section 3. It is finally resolved that the City of Eugene urges members of the Oregon Congressional delegation to actively work for the revocation of any sections of the USA PATRIOT Act, any proposed new Federal legislation and Executive Orders which limit or violate fundamental rights and liberties embodied in the Municipal Ordinances of the City of Eugene and in the Constitutions of the State of Oregon and of the United States.

Section 4. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.